the co-existence of the properties, with which it is endowed
Astronomers have asserted that there is a wonderful beauty discoverable in the circumstance that the law of gravitation varies inversely according to the square of the distance; and it is certain that if it had varied according to any other rule, the same purposes could not have been served by it in the actual mundane system. There is manifestly a wisdom shown in the nature and properties of the elementary substances, some of them being, at the common temperature of the earth, gaseous and singularly pervading and permeating, others being fluid and easily moved, and the common metals being as useful, in consequence of their solidity and coherence, as the gases are in virtue of their elasticity and mobilityr But admitting all this, we are still inclined to think that it is chiefly in the adaptation *of* those substances with their properties to each other that we are to discover the presence and the wisdom of God.

We may discover the wisdom of the Disposer of all things in the adjustment of nature in respect of four classes of relations. There is the relation of bodies in respect (1.) of their FUOPEETIES, (2.) of their QUANTITY, (3.) of HFACK, and (4.) of TIME, It may be interesting and instructive to contemplate some, examples of each of these classes. Since the relations here referred to belong to various classes, we prefer the words adjustment or adaptation to collocation or disposition, (the words employed by Dr. Chalmers,) in so far as the latter direct our attention merely to that class which originates in the relations of space/1"* In the illustrations which follow, wo have a double object in view ; the one to show that there arc nuch udjiwtinents in nature ; and the other, and an ulterior one, to unfold the processes by which general laws are produced.

FIttST, TlIEBK IS THK ADJUSTMENT OF BODIES IN BKSPECT OF

THKFK PHoPKHTiKB. This is the basis of all the other adjustments.

Bodies have a power of uniting in chemical and mechanical combination, and, again, a susceptibility of separation. They have also magnetic or diamnguetio powers, electric attractions and repulsions, and affections or actions in reference to the absorption, ^reflexion, and refraction of light, and the radiation and

* Mill talks of Urn aptly HulfCtwl phriiHO of Dr. (JhaliWiru, ana JmH made a profit-nblu UHU of th« principle. \W arc. better plained with tlio principle than with th« }ihraHt* ottjjilojfi'il to i'xproMH it. JXMJ MUi'tf Logic* H. w. c. xii. § 2.